

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pneumatic tire comprising,
a mark portion of a wear indicator which changes as wear progresses,
said mark portion being provided on a portion of a tread surface of said tire and
disposed apart and in isolation from a main groove extending circumferentially about
said tire, wherein said mark portion includes a first cavity and a second cavity
~~disposed adjacent~~ disposed in close proximity to the first cavity ~~as a reference~~, each
one of the first and second cavities extending into a depth direction of the tread
surface, wherein said first cavity has a first surface shape defining a first surface
area that continuously changes as a depth of the tread surface decreases due to
wear and said second cavity has a second surface shape defining a second surface
area that remains constant as the depth of the tread surface decreases due to wear.

2. (CANCELED).

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The pneumatic tire according the
claim 1, wherein wall surfaces of at least one of said first cavity and said second
cavity are colored with a different color from that of surrounding rubber.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The pneumatic tire according to claim
1, wherein a colored member of a different color from that of surrounding rubber is
buried in said at least one said first cavity and said second cavity.

5. (CANCELED).

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The pneumatic tire according to any
one of claims 3 and 4,

wherein the first and second surface shapes are in a quadrilateral
having a pair of long sides and a pair of short sides respectively, and

the pair of long sides of the second surface shape is made constant in
the depth direction from the tread surface, and the pair of long sides of the first
surface shape is made to change in the depth direction from the tread surface.

7. – 19. (CANCELED).